

## ABSTRACT

The current invention relates to the preparation of an improved cathode active material for non-aqueous lithium electrochemical cell. In particular, the cathode active material comprises  $\epsilon$ -phase silver vanadium oxide prepared by using a  $\gamma$ -phase silver vanadium oxide starting material. The reaction of  $\gamma$ -phase SVO with a silver salt produces the novel  $\epsilon$ -phase SVO possessing a lower surface area than  $\epsilon$ -phase SVO produced from vanadium oxide ( $V_2O_5$ ) and a similar silver salt as starting materials. Consequently, the low surface area  $\epsilon$ -phase SVO material provides an advantage in greater long term stability in pulse dischargeable cells.